

PRESS RELEASE

'Treasures of the Texas Coast' Children's Art Contest opens

Top prize: United Airline tickets, Royal Caribbean Cruise and a class trip to Schlitterbahn

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AUSTIN —

AUSTIN — Calling all artists! All young Texans between the ages of 5 and 12 have a chance to win free vacations, a class party at a water park, and have their artwork appear in a popular calendar.

Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson is calling for entries to the 18th annual Adopt-A-Beach "Treasures of the Texas Coast" Children's Art Contest. The deadline to submit artwork is Monday, March 3.

"Texas has some of the most talented young artists in the world, as well as some of the best beaches in the world," Patterson said. "That's why we're calling for all students between kindergarten and sixth grade to help us spread the word about what a treasure our Texas beaches truly are."

Ten winners will be chosen in mid-April from each of four grade-level categories (K–2nd, 3rd–4th, 5th, and 6th) for a total of 40 winners. One grand prize winner will be chosen from among the 40 finalists.

This year's grand prize winner will receive two round-trip coach-class tickets from United Airlines to any United destination in the 48 contiguous United States, one 7-night Caribbean cruise from Royal Caribbean International departing out of Galveston, Miami, or Fort Lauderdale, and a class party at Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels.

The grand prize winner's teacher will also receive two round-trip coach-class tickets from United Airlines and one 7-night Caribbean cruise courtesy of Royal Caribbean International.

All 40 winners will receive a ticket to the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi, two all-day passes to Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels, two tickets to the permanent exhibit hall at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, a certificate of recognition and prizes from the Texas General Land Office, and the calendar displaying winning artwork.

The winning artwork will appear together in a 2015 calendar, that will be distributed next year.

The Adopt-A-Beach "Treasures of the Texas Coast" Children's Art Contest began in 1996 to mark the 10th anniversary of the Adopt-A-Beach Program. The annual

competition encourages Texas schoolchildren to learn more about the Texas Coast and to artistically express what they've learned.

Open to students in grades K-6 across Texas, the contest motivates thousands of young artists each year.

This year's contest sponsors are Royal Caribbean International, United Airlines, Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels, the Texas State Aquarium and the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

See below for some important guidelines for the "Treasures of the Texas Coast" 2014 Children's Art Contest. For more information and official contest guidelines, please contact the General Land Office at 1-877-TXCOAST or visit our web site at www.texasadoptabeach.org.

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Some important guidelines for the "Treasures of the Texas Coast" 2014 Children's Art Contest:

- Artwork must be displayed on a plain sheet of white 8 ½-inch by 11-inch paper and can be in any medium except computer-generated.
- Three-dimensional art or artwork displaying logos, product brands, and/or store names is ineligible.
- Only one entry per student is allowed, and all entries must have a completed parental release form taped to the back. Parental release forms may be printed from the Land Office web site: www.texasadoptabeach.org.
- Students are encouraged to color photocopy their artwork prior to sending it in because all artwork submitted becomes property of the Texas General Land Office and cannot be returned.
- Each contest entry must be postmarked by Monday, March 3, 2014, to the following address:

Texas General Land Office
Adopt-A-Beach Program: Children's Art Contest 2014
P.O. Box 12873
Austin, Tx 78711-2873

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